

1 Introduction

This software tool was developed in Excel using VBA (Visual Basic for Applications) aimed to help the user to process data according to two methods, DST [1] and CSTG [2], to evaluate the thermal performance of solar systems. The tool was designed to automatically create all the files necessary to use the DST program [3] and has a built in subroutine to calculate the long term thermal performance according to ISO 9459-2 [2] (CSTG). It is also available the family extrapolation for both methods.

This manual was written considering that the user has some experience using both DST [1] and CSTG [2] methods. There is a clear objective to explain all the buttons, textboxes, fields and lists that integrates each window available to the user. In Figure 1 it is illustrated the Excel 2010 interface with only one sheet.



The figure shows a screenshot of the Excel 2010 user interface for the MLabSist software. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Header:** The text "MLabSist" is displayed in a large, colorful font (M in orange, Lab in blue, Sist in green).
- Form Fields:** Below the header, there is a section titled "Fill all the fields". It contains two text boxes: "ISS Path:" with the value "C:\S\ISS\" and "Meteo Path:" with the value "C:\S\Meteo\". Below these is a button labeled "Open User Interface".
- Version and Date:** On the left side, it shows "Version: 0.1.6" and "Date: 30/07/2014".
- User Manual:** A link labeled "User Manual" is provided.
- Contacts:** A section titled "Contacts:" lists the Supervisor as Dr. Maria João (email: mjoao.carvalho@lneg.pt) and the Developer as Ricardo Amorim (email: ricardo.amorim@lneg.pt).
- Support:** It mentions support by the "SOLAR CERTIFICATION FUND Project 4C06-SK-12976_ IZES".
- Logos:** The LNEG logo is on the bottom left, and "The Solar Keymark CEN Keymark Scheme" logo is on the bottom right, with the URL <http://www.estif.org/solarkeymarknew/>.

Figure 1 – Excel 2010 user interface

2 System Requirements

All the subroutines and functions were written in Excel 2007 and Excel 2010. This current version was fully tested in Excel 2010 and Excel 2013. It is not expected to have incompatibility issues with Excel 2003, but the macro was never tested using this version of Excel. The software is currently working on 32 - bit MS Windows systems and the system must allow running 16-bit software.

Also the provided file (XLSB format) is not compatible with Excel 2003 and the file must be converted to Excel 2003 before used in Excel 2003. The recommendation is that this is avoided because this tool was never tested using Excel 2003.

In the regional settings of the operation system a decimal point must be set (not a decimal comma)

Please be aware about the naming of the executable files of your DST software. You must use “DF_P.EXE” for the fitting program and “LTP_P.BAT” for the performance prediction (There were software packages distributed with the naming “DF_P27A.EXE” and “LTP_P27A.BAT”).

3 How to install the macro

The software package contains two files in the zip file that are necessary for this part. One of the files is the user guide and the other file is an Excel file able to run macros (XLSB file). Please follow the next instructions to install the macro in your computer:

1. Decompress the zip file, or copy the MlabSyst.XLSM file, in any folder of your choice
2. Open the MlabSyst.XLSM file
3. A yellow warning message will appear near the ribbon (Excel 2007 and later). To enable the macro click in the Enable button
4. Fill the complete paths of the folder that contains the programs used for DST, and the path that contains the meteorological data (“ISS path” and “Meteo path” fields in Figure 1). Please make sure that these paths are not very long in order to avoid problems when executing batch files (DST).
5. Check the names of the executable files of your DST software. The name of the file to execute the fitting program must be changed to “DF_P.EXE” and for the performance prediction must be changed to “LTP_P.BAT”
6. Before running the macro, please check in the regional settings of the operation system if the decimal separator is a point and not a comma.

Although in Figure 1 the fields are already filled, it is possible to change them. It’s just an example to show that both fields have short names for each folder in order to minimize the number of characters used. This way there should be no problems executing DOS commands to use the DST programs.

4 How to install the example provided in the package

Before proceeding with this step follow the instructions given in the section 3. Otherwise the software could not run properly and as expected. In the software package there is a folder named “example”. You can see the folders and files inside the example folder since they are Excel workbooks or ASCII text files. If you want to use the example provided, you must follow the next instructions to install the example folder in your computer, and also you’ve followed the instructions provided in Section 3. It is not mandatory to install the example provided.

1. Copy the folder “example” to your “c:” drive
2. Rename the folder to “expl”
3. Open the MlabSyst.XLSM (according to section 3)
4. A yellow warning message will appear near the ribbon (Excel 2007 and later). To enable the macro click in the Enable button

5. Click on “Open User Interface” and select the system “expl” (see number 1 in Figure 3) to start using the example provided

The example system is already available in the tool. After these steps the user can explore the tool and its functionalities to better understand how it works.

5 What files / software are necessary to run this macro?

It is considered that the user has already installed in his computer all the DST programs in one folder (the “ISS path”, see Figure 1) and at least has four meteorological files (“Meteo path”, see Figure 1), one for each of the four cities, to perform the LTPP energy calculations (Athens, Davos, Stockholm and Wurzburg). In order to avoid problems when running the program, the user must rename the files of the four cities using this format: “C.dfm”. “C” represents the first letter of the city, e.g.: Athens.dfm must be named to A.dfm.

After renaming all the files the user must edit the header of the file using the “*” character. This is not important for the DST method, but is important for the CSTG method. This should be done before using the macro for the first time in order to avoid later problems and must be repeated if the user replaces the files. The implemented subroutine uses the same hourly data files and converts them to daily averaged according to ISO 9459-2 [2]. But in order to process the data, the tool needs to know the local latitude, longitude and the reference meridian. To better understand how this can be accomplished please see the following example, based on the Athens file (bold text):

```
* ATHENS TRY Weather Data
* ? Id includes -20% ground reflected radiation
* Orientation: South
* Tilt : 45 x
* Longitude of Athens:23.7-
* Latitude of Athens : 38-
* Latitude = 38
* Longitude = -23.7
* RefMeridian = -30
\TimeStep,3600
\DefineChannel,t,3600[s],Sample,'Time [hrs]'
\DefineChannel,Ta,1[xC],Mean,'Ambient temperature'
\DefineChannel,It,1[W/m}],Mean,'global irradiance in collector plane [W/m-]'
\UseChannels,t,Ta,It
\DataMode,Mean
```

Also it is recommended that the user uses the data provided in the Solar Keymark Network website. If the user wants to use other data files, the structure of the file must be identical to the supplied example provided above. The first column is Time [h], the second is the Mean Ambient Temperature [°C] and the third is the Global irradiance in collector plane [W/m²]. This is important for the CSTG method. If the order is different, the tool will not work properly.

6 The file structure

When the user uses the system manager (see also section User Interface description – “System Manager” window) to add a new system to the database, the macro creates the folders and files that are necessary to organize the different files for DST and CSTG methods. See the next scheme to understand that structure and the description of each folder:

- ... \systemName – the path indicated in Figure 6 in the field number 3

- \CSTG – folder with all the files relatively to the CSTG method
 - \ltp – folder with all the files resulting from the long term performance prediction process (*.SIM files)
 - \xls – folder with all the excel files (SKN.xlsx file)
- \DST – folder with all the files relatively to the DST method
 - \bat – folder with all the batch files (*.bat)
 - \d1 – folder with all the d1 (**the user must copy the d1 files to this folder**), d2, d3 and sum files
 - \ltp – folder with all the files resulting from the long term performance prediction process (*.bak, *.DL, *.LOG, *.LTP, *.sqp and *.SQT)
 - opt – folder with all files resulting from the parameter identification program (*.BAK, *.df, *.DFP, *.DFR, *.DFS, *.LOG)
 - xls – folder with all the excel files (extrapol.xlsx, SKN.xlsx and other Excel sheets)

6.1 Example

For instructions on how to install the example package provided please see section 4 of this document “How to install the example provided in the package”.

Inside the folder “c:\expl\” you will find the CSTG and the DST folders. Inside the CSTG folder there are three text files that contain each one a draw-off profile (low radiation, high radiation and mixing). This text files are input files for the LTPP process according to the CSTG method. Inside the folder LTPP, all the “SIM” files created during the calculation of the LTPP energies are saved. In the other folder “xls” there is one Excel file named “SKN.xlsx” where the annual energies for each city are saved in the Solar Keymark Network template sheet.

Inside the folder “c:\expl\DST” the user will find three additional folders. In the “bat” folder are saved all the batch files used to call DST programs, the d1 folder is where the user copies to all the d1 files with measured data, and also are saved all the files that are created based on this d1 files (D2, D3, SUM files and BAK). The “opt” folder exists to save all the output files created by the “DF_P” program (BAK, DFP, DFR, DFS and LOG) and one input file that is automatically written by the software with extension DF.

7 DST method flow chart

The macro is able to perform all the operations that before were done manually. Each window described in sections 8.4 to 8.8 corresponds to one major step in the manual process. Please see Figure 2 to understand which window corresponds to the manual process major steps for the DST [1] method. To open each window, respectively from left to right, use the options available in the combobox number 13 (see Figure 5), “Sequences A, B, HL, ...”, “Identify Parameters” and “LTPP”.

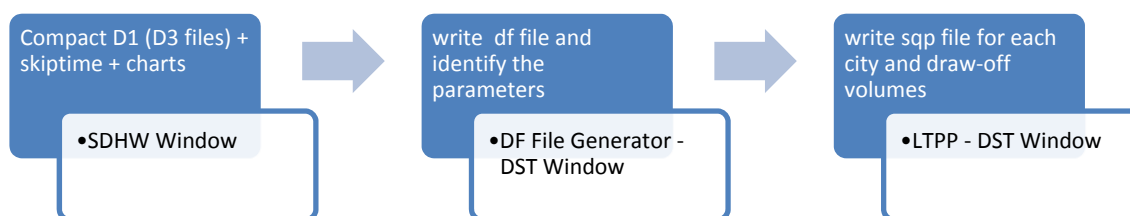


Figure 2 – DST method flow chart major manual steps and the corresponding user interface window

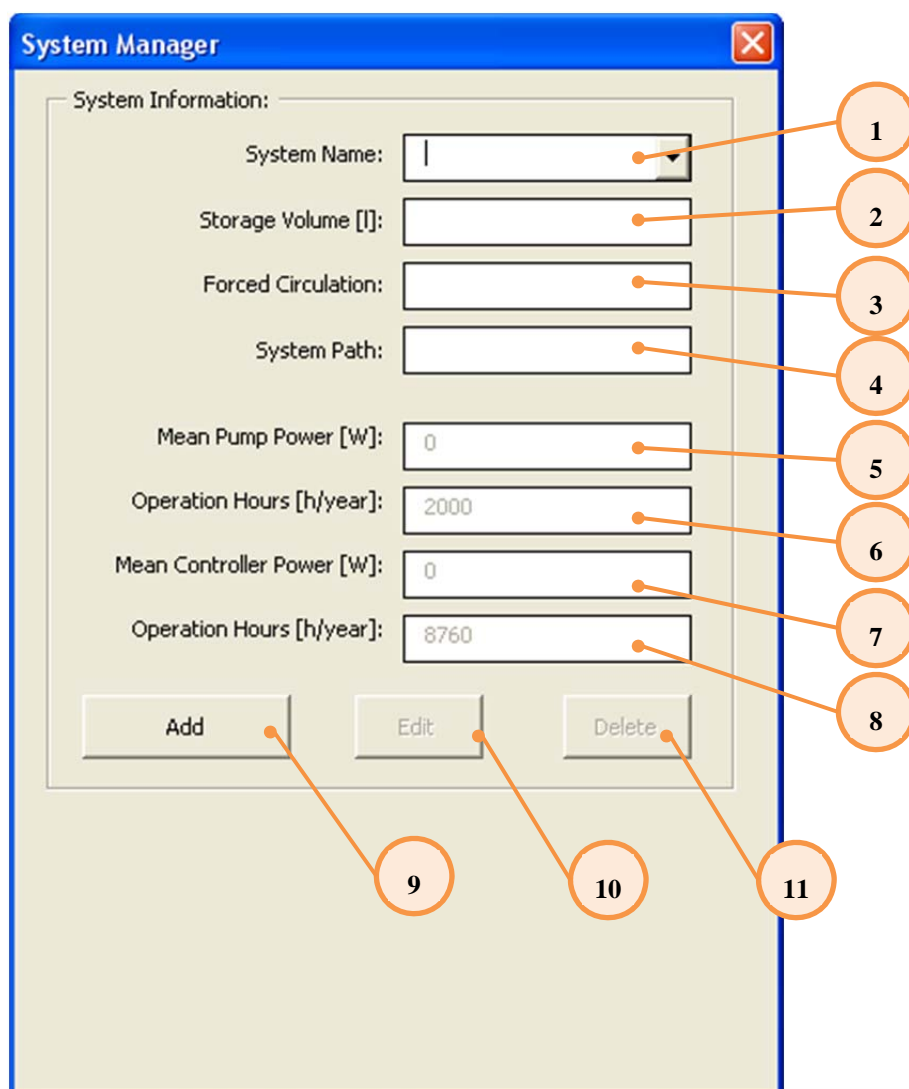
8 User Interface description

In this section the user will be introduced to all the windows that are available with a short introduction to all the features in each window.

8.1 “System Manager” Window

The system manager window is the first window that appears after clicking the button “Open User Interface” (see Figure 1 and Figure 3). In this window the user can add, edit and delete solar systems that exist in the database. If you select a system by using the combobox (number 1 in Figure 3) all the properties of the selected system will be shown in the textboxes above (numbers 2 to 8 in Figure 3). For more detailed information see also Table 1.

To add new systems to the database click the button “Add” (number 9 in Figure 3) and a new window will appear in the screen. You will not be able to edit system properties in the “System Manager” window. To edit the properties you need to click in the button “Edit” and a new window will appear in your screen (see Figure 7). If you want to delete the selected system you must use the button “Delete”. After you delete a system from the database a message box will appear to confirm the decision. After deleting a system from the database it is not possible to recover it, although, the files in your system will not be deleted. If you want the deleted system to be again available in the database you must add it providing the same “System Path” (see number 4 in Figure 1).



The image shows a software window titled "System Manager" with a blue title bar and a close button. Inside the window, there is a section labeled "System Information:" containing several input fields and three buttons at the bottom. Numbered callouts (1-11) point to specific elements:

- 1: System Name dropdown menu
- 2: Storage Volume [l] text input field
- 3: Forced Circulation text input field
- 4: System Path text input field
- 5: Mean Pump Power [W] text input field (value: 0)
- 6: Operation Hours [h/year] text input field (value: 2000)
- 7: Mean Controller Power [W] text input field (value: 0)
- 8: Operation Hours [h/year] text input field (value: 8760)
- 9: Add button
- 10: Edit button
- 11: Delete button

Figure 3 – System Manager window without a system selected

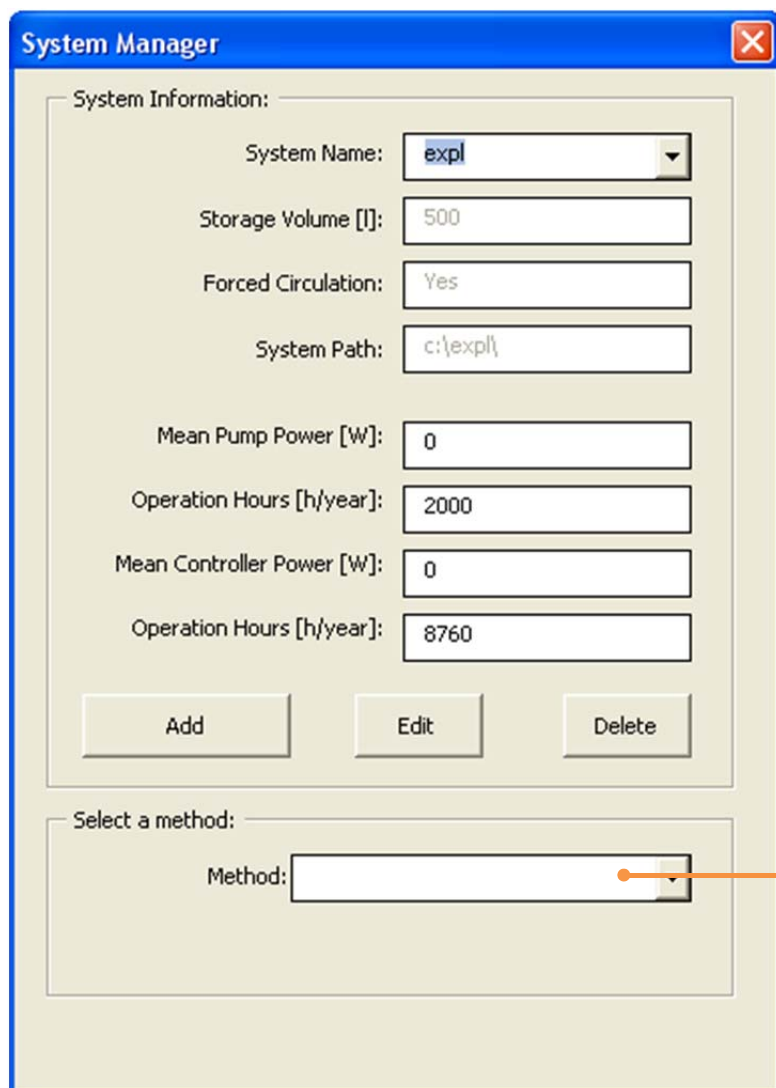
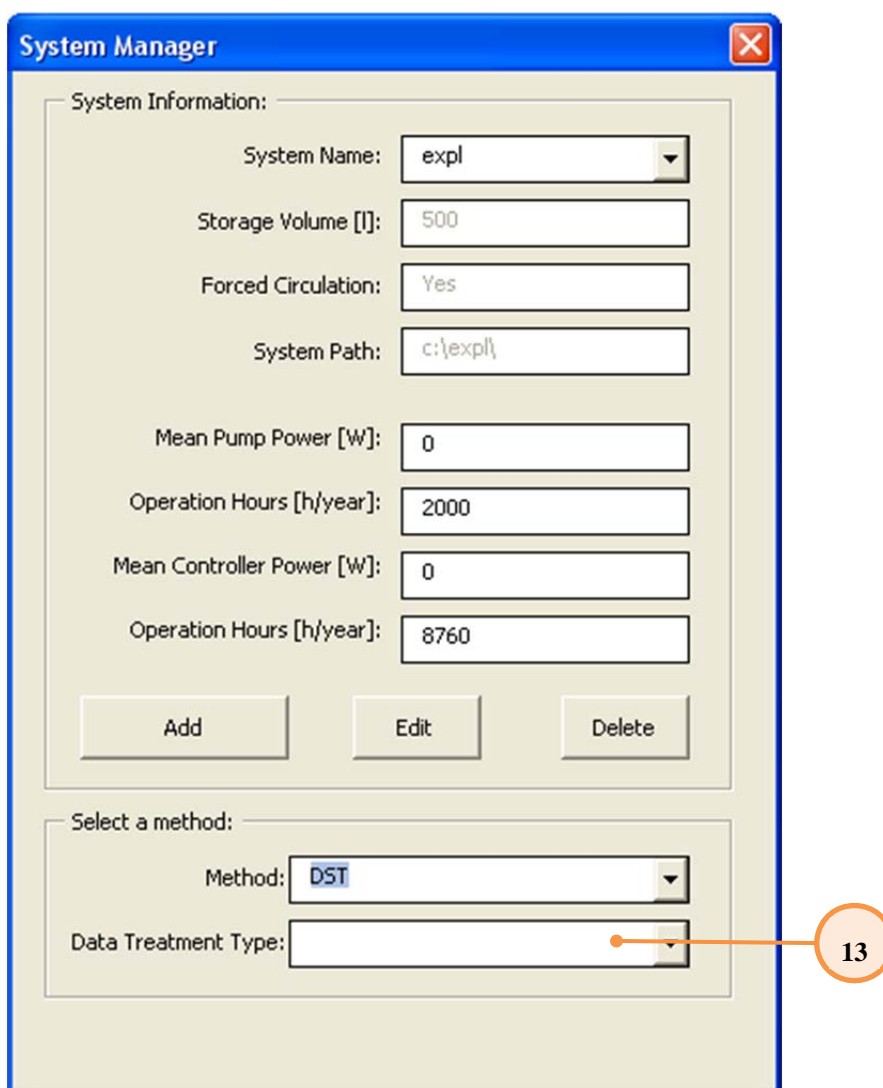


Figure 4 - System Manager window with a system selected

Table 1 – Description and input data type of the fields and buttons available in Figure 3 to Figure 5

Number	Description	Input Type
1	List of all the systems in the database	String
2	Storage nominal volume	Numeric
3	The system is Forced Circulation (Yes) or thermosyphon (No)	String
4	The folder where all the files will be stored (DST, CSTG and Excel files)	String
5	Mean pump power [W]. Only available in forced circulation systems	Numeric
6	Number of operation hours of the pump in a year. Only available in forced circulation systems	Numeric
7	Mean controller power [W]. Only available in forced circulation	Numeric

	systems	
8	Number of operation hours of the controller in a year. Only available in forced circulation systems	Numeric
9	Button to add a new system to the database	-
10	Button to edit the selected system (number 1 field)	-
11	Button to delete the selected system (number 1 field)	-
12	List with two methods – DST and CSTG	-
13	List with three options that only appears if the selected method is DST	-



System Manager

System Information:

System Name: expl

Storage Volume [l]: 500

Forced Circulation: Yes

System Path: c:\expl\

Mean Pump Power [W]: 0

Operation Hours [h/year]: 2000

Mean Controller Power [W]: 0

Operation Hours [h/year]: 8760

Add Edit Delete

Select a method:

Method: DST

Data Treatment Type:

13

Figure 5 - System Manager window with a system selected and the DST method selected

8.2 “Add New System” Window

To add a system to the database you must click in the button “Add” in the “System Manager” window (number 9). The window illustrated in Figure 6 will appear. To add a new system you must fill all the fields available in the new window (numbers 1 to 4 in Figure 6). After this step you can click in the “Add” button. The “Add New System” window will close and the newly added system properties appear in the “System Manager” window as illustrated in Figure 4. The window can be closed using the close button at the top right corner and nothing is saved in the database.

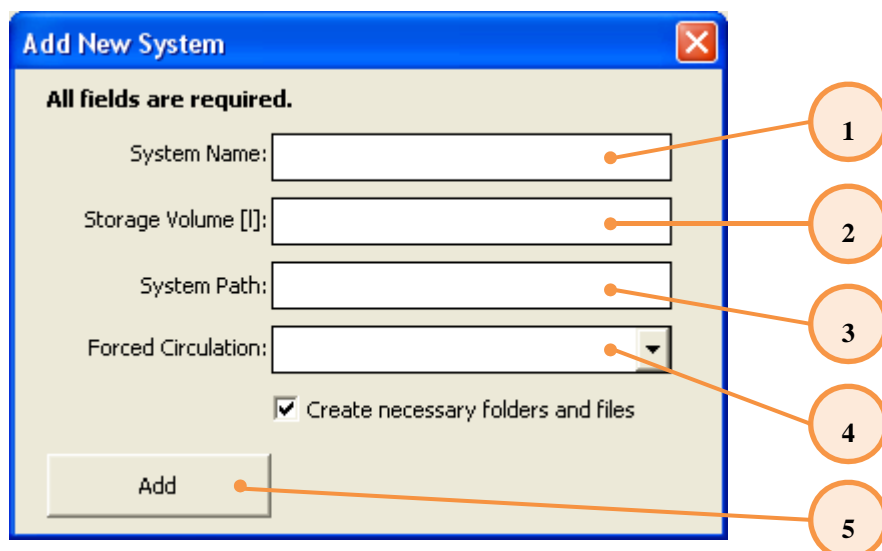


Figure 6 – “Add New System” window

Table 2 – Description and input data type of the fields and buttons available in Figure 6

Number	Description	Input Type
1	System name	String
2	Storage nominal volume	Numeric
3	The folder where all the files will be stored (DST, CSTG and Excel files)	String
4	The system is Forced Circulation (Yes) or thermosyphon (No)	String
5	Button to add a new system to the database	-

8.3 “Edit System” Window

In Figure 7 it is illustrated the appearance of the “Edit System” window. This window appears if the button “Edit” (number 10) in the “System Manager” window is clicked as illustrated in Figure 3. The only field that it is not possible to edit is the “System Path”.

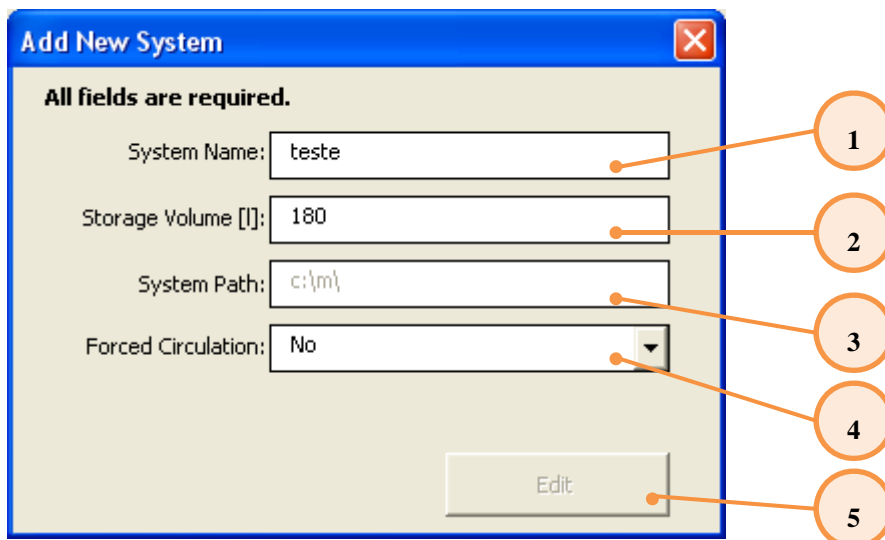


Figure 7 - “Edit System” window to update the properties of the selected system in the “Manage System” window

Table 3 – Description and input data type of the fields and buttons available in Figure 7 -

Number	Description	Input Type
1	System name	String
2	Storage nominal volume	Numeric
3	The folder were all the files will be stored (DST, CSTG and Excel files)	-
4	The system is Forced Circulation (Yes) or thermosyphon (No)	String
5	Button to update the system information in the database	-

8.4 “SDHWS” Window

Figure 8 shows the “SDHWS” window with two lists, the left one is a list with all the D1 files inside the folder “...\systemname\d1\” and the list at the right lists the dates of the previously generated d3 files. Multiple files can be selected from the list (only the left list) and then click at the “start” button to process all the selected files. The d2, d3 and sum files for each selected d1 file are in the same folder (“...\systemname\d1\”).

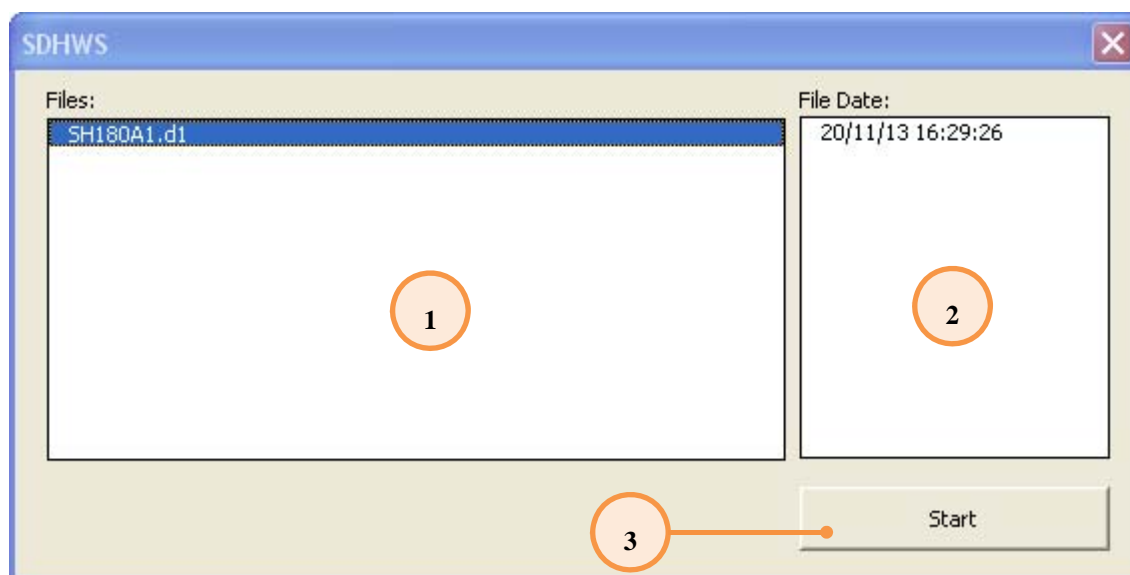


Figure 8 - “SDHWS” window to process d1 files into d2, d3 and sum files

Table 4 – Description of the fields and buttons available in Figure 8

Number	Description
1	List of all the d1 files inside the folder “...\systemname\d1\”
2	List with all d3 files dates inside the folder “...\systemname\d1\”
3	Button to process all the selected items in list number 1

8.5 “DF file Generator - DST” Window

This window, as illustrated in Figure 9, is only useful if the user has already generated D3 files based on D1 files (using “SDHWS” window, described above) or manually added D3 file in “...\systemname\d1\” folder. All the D3 files in “...\systemname\d1\” folder will be listed in this list (see number 1 in Figure 9). In this window the user will be able to select multiple items in the “D3 files list” list (number 1). By clicking in the items list the user adds the D3 files (sequences) that are necessary to create a new DFR file for the system tested. It’s also possible to select the extra parameters to add in the DST model, respectively, “Aux.” for the Faux parameter, “DrawoffMix” for the DL parameter, “Solar Strat.” for the SC parameter and “WindCollector” for the wind velocity collector dependence, uc* parameter (number 2).

After selecting all the necessary files and options the user needs to click in the “Add DF” button (number 3) to add a new item to the “DF files list” list (number 4). An input box will appear in the screen to enter the name of the new DF file. If the file already exists in the “opt” folder, this file is replaced by the new one. The button “Execute DF files list” (number 5) will create the new files (DF, DFR, etc...) based on the list “DF files list”. The new files are created in the “...\systemname\opt\” folder.

The user can select multiple files (using the files listed in “D3 files list” listbox), generate several DF files and create all of them in batch process, but the options selected in the “DF file options” (number 2) needs to be the same.

There is only the option to add new items to the “DF files list”. Currently it is not possible to edit or delete existing items. Closing the “DF file Generator – DST” window and opening it again clears the “DF files list” list.

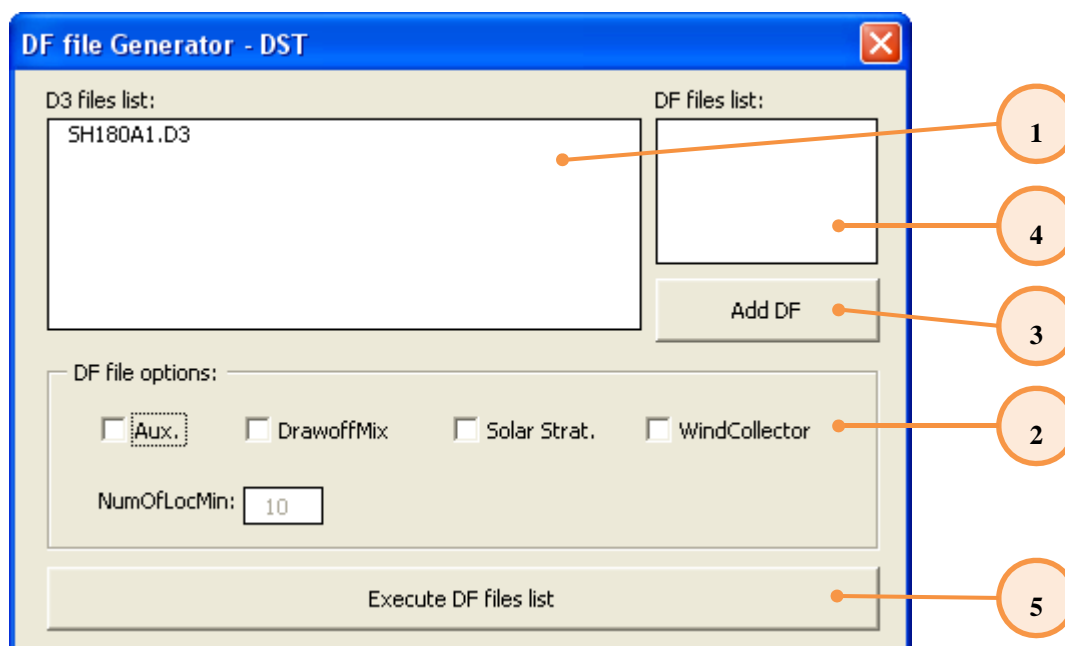


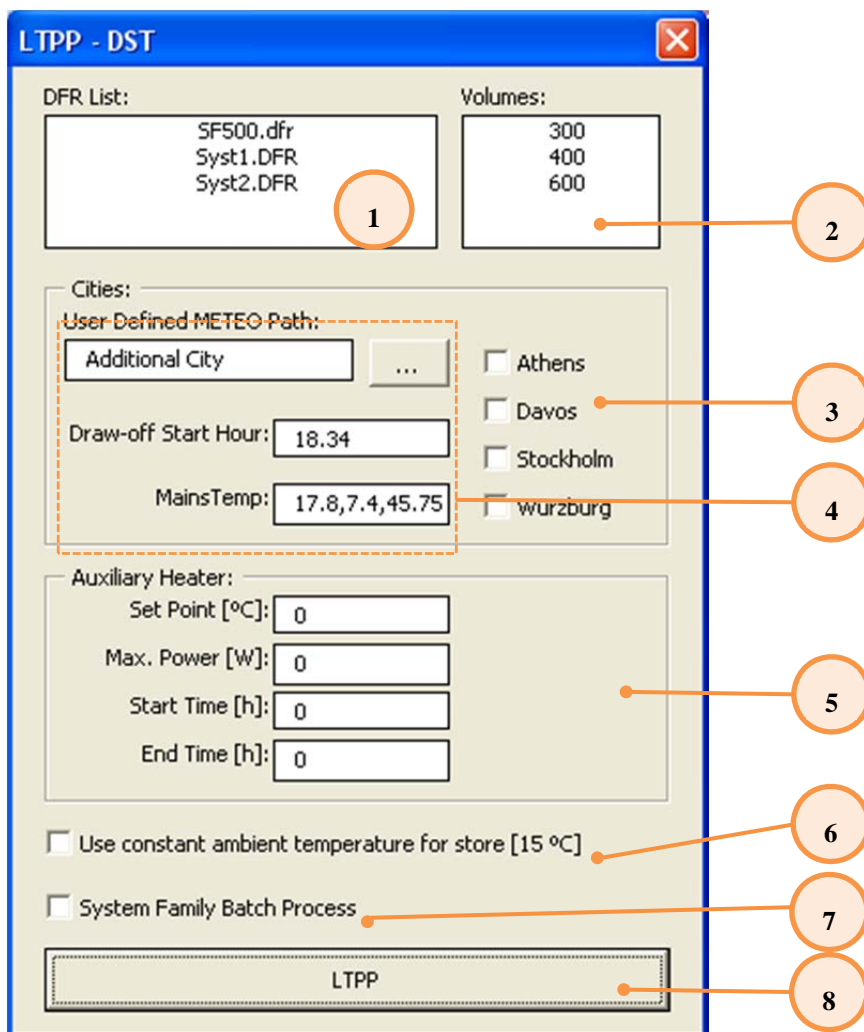
Figure 9 - “DF file Generator - DST” window to generate the DF file and execute batches

Table 5 – Description and input data type of the fields and buttons available in Figure 9

Number	Description
1	List of all the D3 files available in the folder “...\systemname\d1\”
2	The options available in DST to add more variables to be determined by the optimization program. “Aux.” for Faux parameter, “DrawoffMix” for DL parameter, “Solar Strat.” for SC parameter and “WindCollector” for wind velocity collector dependence.
3	Button to add a new item to the “DF files list” list with the options selected in “DF file options” (number 2)
4	List of all the DF files created by the user. New DF files will be created after the user clicks in the “Execute DF files list” button (number 5)
5	Button to execute all the DF files based on the list “DF files list” (number 4)

8.6 “LTPP - DST” Window

With the “LTPP – DST” window the user is able to calculate the long term energy based on one DFR file as illustrated in Figure 10. It is available, for forced circulation systems, the estimation of the annual parasitic energy (see number 5 to 8 in Figure 3)). The available DFR files in the folder “...\systemname\opt\” are listed in the “DFR list” list (number 1). Only one item of this list is selected (multiple items selection is not available). The volumes in the “Volumes” list (number 2) are automatically generated based on the nominal volume of the store (number 2 in Figure 3). These volumes can be changed by double clicking (left mouse button) in the list. It is also possible to select up to five cities (number 3 and 4). If necessary the calculations can be performed using one file that is not one of the four typical cities. Using the “...” button the user can provide the full path of the DFM file to be used. Two more textboxes must be filled with the draw-off start hour and the mains temperature coefficients (see number 4). If the system has an auxiliary heater the user must fill the information using the textboxes inside the field “Auxiliary Heater” (number 5). If the user does not want to use the auxiliary heater, the set point temperature and the maximum power textboxes must be set to 0 (see number 5). There is also the option to fix the ambient temperature of the storage to 15°C (see number 6).



The screenshot shows the 'LTPP - DST' window with the following elements and callouts:

- 1**: DFR List containing SF500.dfr, Syst1.DFR, and Syst2.DFR.
- 2**: Volumes list containing 300, 400, and 600.
- 3**: Cities list containing Athens, Davos, Stockholm, and wurzburg.
- 4**: User Defined METEO Path section containing an Additional City field, Draw-off Start Hour (18.34), and MainsTemp (17.8,7.4,45.75).
- 5**: Auxiliary Heater section containing Set Point [°C] (0), Max. Power [W] (0), Start Time [h] (0), and End Time [h] (0).
- 6**: Checkbox for 'Use constant ambient temperature for store [15 °C]'.
- 7**: Checkbox for 'System Family Batch Process'.
- 8**: LTPP button.

Figure 10 - “LTPP - DST” window to calculate the “Long Thermal Performance Prediction” energy for the benched systems

To use the extrapolation method the user must check the checkbox “System Family Batch Process” (number 7). The selected DFR in the “DFR list” list must be the measured system. With this option the macro will use the information provided in the file “Extrapol.xlsx” inside the folder “...\systemname\xls\”. For more information on how to fill all the data see section “System Family – extrapol.xlsx”. To start the calculations for each volume and each city combination, the user must click in the “LTPP” button (number 8).

Table 6 – Description and input data type of the fields and buttons available in Figure 9

Number	Description	Input Type
1	List of available DFR files in folder “...\systemname\opt\”	-
2	Automatic generated list of volumes based on the nominal volume of the store (number 2 in Figure 3). To edit the volume double click with the left mouse button	-
3	List of available cities to calculate the LTPP energy	-
4	User defined meteorological data. The user must also supply the draw-off start hour and the MainsTemp command according to the DST user manual [3]	String

5	Auxiliary heater command also according to DST user manual [1]. If the user does not want to use this command set the set point and max power textboxes to 0.	String
6	Use constant ambient temperature for the store command (if checked)	-
7	System family batch process options (solar system families extrapolation)	-
8	“LTTP” button to start the batch process of one DFR selected in list “DFR list” or the batch process of solar system families extrapolation if option number 8 is checked	-

8.7 System Family – DST Method - extrapol.xlsx

In this workbook the user describes the necessary information about each system that composes the system family. Based on this information the sheet automatically calculates the parameters for each system and based on the selected DFR (number 1 in Figure 10) all the necessary DFR files (one for each system) are created and saved inside the folder “opt”. Automatically new sheets are added to the SKN.xlsx workbook, one for each system. The SKN.xlsx is saved inside the “xls” folder.

As illustrated in Figure 11 the user must select which system is the fixed system. This is essential in order to extrapolate the parameters for each system and also to test if the extrapolation process is applicable (maximum of $\pm 15\%$ deviation in the LTTP energies). If this is not accomplished the process stop and a warning message appears in the screen.

It is recommended that the user gives all the input information and does not change cells with formulas. A maximum number of 9 systems can be simultaneously extrapolated as illustrated in Figure 11. If the system name (row number 2) is empty, that column information will be ignored for the extrapolation.

System Name			Fixed								
System Name	Syst1	Syst2									
Collector	Collector1	Collector2									
Ac (m2)	1.78	2.3									
Nº of Collectors	3	3									
Total Ac	5.34	6.9									
Isol (s)	0.74	0.74									
a1 (W/m2K)	3.9	3.9									
a2 (W/m2K2)	0.013	0.013									
K50T											
K50L											
K50	0.83	0.83									
Ac (W/m2K)	4.42	4.42									
Storage											
Nominal Volume (l)	5500	5500									
Exterior Diameter (mm)	730	730									
Insulation Thickness (mm)	40	40									
Interior Diameter (mm)	650	650									
Exterior Height (mm)	1970	1970									
Interior Height (mm)	1890	1890									
External Area (m2)	5.36	5.36									
Insulated Tubes											
Insulation Thickness (m)	0.012	0.012									
Tubes Diameter (m)	0.018	0.018									
Tubes Length (m)	15	15									
Non-Insulated Tubes											
Tubes Diameter (m)	0.025	0.025									
Tubes Length (m)	0	0									
Lambda-Insu (W/Km)											
Uinsu (W/K)	4.449	4.449									
Uun-insu (W/K)	0	0									
Utotal	4.449	4.449									
Heat Exchanger? (Yes=1/No=0)											
1: Ahx (m2)	2.2	2.2									
1: (UA)hx (W/K)	440	440									
1: (UA)hx	440	440									
Delta etax	0.039	0.049									
F ¹	0.961	0.951									

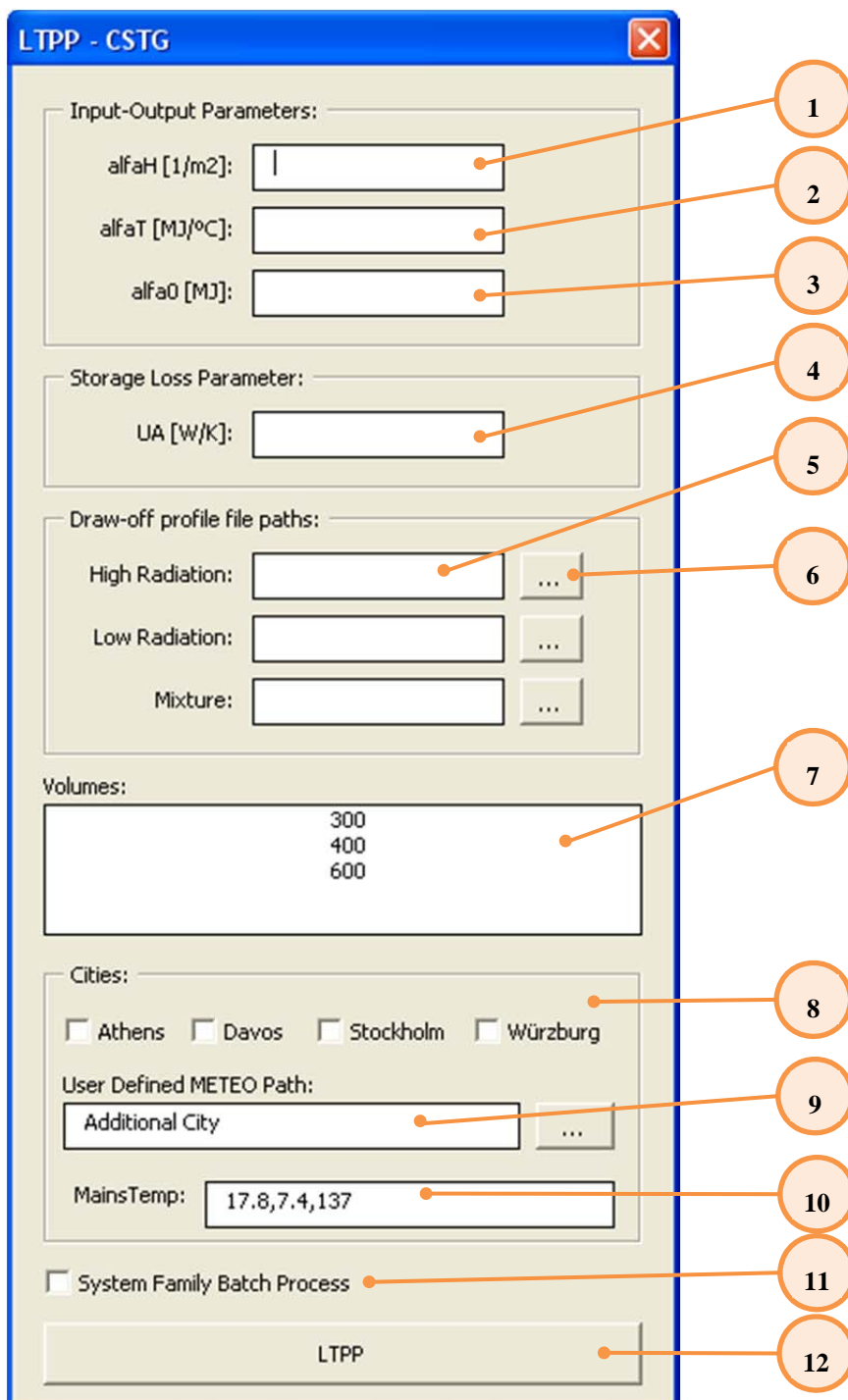
DST Parameters								
Wierzbica 2								
(Free)								
Ac*	m2							
uc*	W/K.m2							
Us	W/K							
Os	M/K							
DL	-							
Sc	-							
Faux	-							
Daily Load								
Vol1	l/day							
Vol2	l/day							
Vol3	l/day							
Annual Energy with free parameters - kWh								
Stockholm	Wuerzburg	Davos	Athens	User				
0								
0								
0								
Annual Energy with fixed parameters - kWh								
Stockholm	Wuerzburg	Davos	Athens	User				
0								
0								
0								
(Free - Fixed)/Free								
Stockholm	Wuerzburg	Davos	Athens	User				
0	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%				
0	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%				
0	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%				

*Green background means differences less than $\pm 15\%$

Figure 11 – extapol.xlsx workbook to perform the system family for the DST method

8.8 “LTPP - CSTG” Window

In Figure 12, it is shown the “LTPP – CSTG” window. In this window the user is able to fill all the inputs necessary to calculate the long term energy with the CSTG methodology. It is supposed that the user has already calculated the Input-Output parameters according to equation 2 (number 1 to 3), the heat losses according to equation 1 (number 4) and written three text files with the draw-off profiles of ISO 9459-2 [2] (number 5). For more information about these three text files please see the example provided in the software package. The volumes in the “Volumes” list (number 7) are automatically generated based on the nominal volume of the store (number 2 in Figure 3). It is also possible to select up to five cities (number 8). If necessary the calculations can be performed using one file that is not one of the four typical cities. Using the “...” button the user can provide the full path of the DFM file to be used. To configure the mains temperature the user must use the textbox “MainsTemp” (see number 10). To start the calculations for each volume and each city combination, the user must click in the “LTPP” button (number 12).



LTPP - CSTG

Input-Output Parameters:

alfaH [1/m2]:

alfaT [MJ/°C]:

alfa0 [MJ]:

Storage Loss Parameter:

UA [W/K]:

Draw-off profile file paths:

High Radiation: ...

Low Radiation: ...

Mixture: ...

Volumes:

300
400
600

Cities:

☐ Athens ☐ Davos ☐ Stockholm ☐ Würzburg

User Defined METEO Path:

Additional City: ...

MainsTemp:

☐ System Family Batch Process

LTPP

12 numbered callouts are present on the right side of the window, pointing to the following elements:

- 1: alfaH input field
- 2: alfaT input field
- 3: alfa0 input field
- 4: UA input field
- 5: High Radiation input field
- 6: High Radiation browse button (...)
- 7: Volumes table
- 8: Cities checkboxes
- 9: Additional City input field
- 10: MainsTemp input field
- 11: System Family Batch Process checkbox
- 12: LTPP button

Figure 12 - "LTPP - CSTG" window to calculate the "Long Thermal Performance Prediction" energy for the benched systems

Table 7 – Description and input data type of the fields and buttons available in Figure 12

Number	Description	Input Type
1	Coefficient α_H (dependency in incident radiation) of the Input-Output diagram determined by the least square method	Numeric
2	Coefficient α_T (dependency in temperature) of the Input-Output diagram determined by the least square method	Numeric
3	Coefficient α_0 of the Input-Output diagram determined by the least square method	Numeric
4	Storage Heat Loss coefficient determined by the heat loss test	Numeric
5	High Radiation extraction profile text file (manual input or by clicking in the “...” button to open a dialog box)	-
6	“...” button to open a dialog box to indicate the location of the High Radiation profile text file (one “...” button for each profile)	-
7	Automatic generated list of daily load volumes based on the nominal volume of the store (number 2 in Figure 3). To edit the volume double click with the left mouse button.	-
8	List of available cities to calculate the LTPP energy	-
9	User defined meteorological data	String
10	Mains Temperature parameters. Mean temperature, amplitude temperature and shift day. The example provided is for the Athens city.	String
11	System family batch process options (solar system families extrapolation)	
12	“LTPP” button to start the batch process and calculate all the energies for each selected city and daily load volumes	-

8.9 System Family – CSTG Method – extrapol.xlsx

In this workbook the user gives the necessary information about each system that composes the system family for the CSTG method. The user specifies information for each of the systems that compose the family (up to 9 system) and also the information about measured system (right part of Figure 13). For the measured system the user must supply the long term performance prediction energies calculated previously. A maximum number of 9 systems can be simultaneously extrapolated as illustrated in Figure 11. If the system name (row number 2) is empty, that column information will be ignored for the extrapolation. Figures 14 to 16 illustrate the same information as Figure 13 but the fields are more visible and readable.

Before the user starts the extrapolation method, the user must select at least one city (field number 8 in Figure 12) and select the option “System Family Batch Process” (field number 11 in Figure 12). The other fields are ignored (from 1 to 8 in Figure 12). After the user clicks in the LTPP button automatically new sheets are added to the SKN.xlsx workbook, one for each system. The SKN.xlsx is saved inside the “xls” folder.

The family extrapolation for the CSTG Method is described in [4] and [5].

System Parameters											
Collector											
Collector Name	Col1										
Collector Aperture Area [m2]	3.174										
nr of collectors	1										
Total Collector Area [m2]	3.174										
Upipe [W/K]	1.02										
Storage Name	200										
Nominal Volume [l]	178.7										
External Diameter [mm]	530										
Insulation Thickness [mm]	40										
Internal Diameter [mm]	450										
External Length [mm]	1320										
Internal Length [mm]	1280										
Heat Exchanger Area [m2]	1.75										

CSTG Monthly Energy [MJ]											
Draw-off Vol. [l]											
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Stockholm	240	170	200	140	170	200	140	170	200	140	170
Wuerzburg	240	170	200	140	170	200	140	170	200	140	170
Davos	240	170	200	140	170	200	140	170	200	140	170
Athens	240	170	200	140	170	200	140	170	200	140	170
Jan	29	30	31	87	91	93	244	255	259	347	363
Feb	94	98	99	106	112	115	361	378	384	336	353
Mar	254	267	271	218	226	229	527	564	574	394	419
Apr	396	417	426	492	531	543	555	564	606	483	522
May	549	605	620	468	518	539	533	570	580	446	515
Jun	483	522	540	519	582	606	510	540	552	408	489
Jul	465	515	533	539	608	645	555	601	611	375	456
Aug	406	437	450	437	481	502	524	574	595	357	434
Sep	345	369	378	372	405	423	495	522	528	363	441
Oct	159	167	170	216	226	229	422	443	450	391	446
Nov	49	50	51	97	101	102	285	299	303	300	318
Dec	8	8	9	34	35	36	200	208	211	264	276
Total	1218	1484	1577	1586	1915	2063	1210	1549	1653	1484	1630

Figure 13 – extrapol.xlsx workbook to perform the system family for the CSTG method

	Syst1								
Collector Name	Col1								
Collector Aperture Area [m2]	3.174								
n° of collectors	1								
Total Collector Area [m2]	3.174								
Upipe [W/K]	1.02								
Storage Name	200								
Nominal Volume [l]	178.7								
External Diameter [mm]	530								
Insulation Thickness [mm]	40								
Internal Diameter [mm]	450								
External Length [mm]	1320								
Internal Length [mm]	1240								
Heat Exchanger Area [m2]	1.75								

Figure 14 – extrapol.xlsx workbook to perform the system family for the CSTG method – extrapolated systems information

System Parameters			
Colector			
A	2.465	[m2]	
η_o	0.723	[m2]	
a1	3.4	[W/(m2K)]	
a2	0.016	[W/(m2K)]	
IAM	0.88	[-]	
Storage			
Volume	178.7	[l]	
Ahx	1.753	[m2]	
Piping			
Uloop,p	1.23	[W/K]	

Figure 15 – extrapol.xlsx workbook to perform the system family for the CSTG method – measured system information

CSTG Montly Energy [MJ]												
Draw-off Vol. [l]	Stockholm			Wuerzburg			Davos			Athens		
	140	170	200	140	170	200	140	170	200	140	170	200
Month	QL 1 [MJ]	QL 2 [MJ]	QL 3 [MJ]	QL 1 [MJ]	QL 2 [MJ]	QL 3 [MJ]	QL 1 [MJ]	QL 2 [MJ]	QL 3 [MJ]	QL 1 [MJ]	QL 2 [MJ]	QL 3 [MJ]
Jan	29	30	31	87	91	93	244	255	259	347	363	369
Feb	94	98	99	106	112	115	361	378	384	336	353	358
Mar	254	267	271	218	226	229	527	564	574	394	419	425
Apr	396	417	426	492	531	543	555	594	606	483	522	537
May	549	605	620	468	518	539	533	570	580	446	515	561
Jun	483	522	540	519	582	606	510	540	552	408	489	561
Jul	465	515	533	539	608	645	555	601	611	375	456	536
Ago	406	437	450	437	481	502	524	574	595	357	434	512
Sep	345	369	378	372	405	423	495	522	528	363	441	519
Oct	159	167	170	216	226	229	422	443	450	391	446	481
Nov	49	50	51	97	101	102	285	299	303	300	318	324
Dec	8	8	9	34	35	36	200	208	211	264	276	280
Total	3238	3484	3577	3586	3915	4061	5210	5549	5652	4464	5030	5463

Figure 16 – extrapol.xlsx workbook to perform the system family for the CSTG method – annual energies previously calculated from the CSTG method for the measured system

9 References

- [1] International Standard ISO 9459-5:2007. Solar heating – Domestic water heating systems – part 5: System performance characterization by means of whole-system tests and computer simulation
- [2] International Standard ISO 9459-2:1995. Solar heating – Domestic water heating systems – part 2: Outdoor test methods for system performance characterization and yearly performance prediction of solar-only systems
- [3] Spirkel W., - Dynamic System Testing Program Manual – version 2.7
- [3] Duffie, J.A. and Beckman W.A. - Solar Engineering of Thermal Processes – 2nd Edition
- [4] Annex D – Solar Keymark System Families – R6 - 28/3 2011
- [5] prEN 15316-4.3:2006 - Heating systems in buildings - Method for calculation of system energy requirements and system efficiencies - Part 2.2.3 Heat generation systems, thermal solar systems